



# THE BAPTIST MESSAGE

November 8, 2018

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## Annual meeting will highlight 'reaching the next generation'

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

RUSTON – Under the mantle of "Imprint – Marking the Next Generation," adapted from Deuteronomy 6:7, messengers to the 2018 Louisiana Baptist Convention will learn about progress being made toward completing the goal of sharing Christ with the next generation as outlined in the President's 2020 Commission Report.

The annual meeting will take place Nov. 12-13 at Temple Baptist Church in Ruston.

"We see pockets of success of which we celebrate," said LBC Executive Director David Hankins, "but we need to prayerfully seek God's direction if we're going to successfully imprint this generation with the Gospel."

The next generation is one of two groups identified as target audiences in the President's 2020 Commission Report. Adopted by messengers at the 2013 Louisiana Baptist Convention annual meeting, the 2020 initiative seeks to reach every generation and every people group in Louisiana with the Gospel by the year 2020 through congregational revitalization, church planting, communications and collaboration.

See ANNUAL MEETING, page 9



Submitted photos

Pastor Cedric Murphy baptizes Michael Hills and Torianna Hamilton at Providence Number One Baptist Church in Ethel. Since January Murphy has baptized 19 new converts – the most in a single year since the church was organized in 2012. The uptick in baptisms is a result of an increased focus on prayer and evangelism for the church that averages 60 for its Sunday morning worship services.

## SISTERS BOND THROUGH BAPTISM

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

ETHEL – Donna Rylee and Ruthie Taylor have celebrated many happy times as sisters, but both are adamant that no other moment they have shared can surpass the jubilation both felt during their joint baptism at Providence Number One Baptist Church in Ethel.

As Pastor Cedric Murphy baptized each, Sept. 2, the two women beamed with excitement about the

spiritual journey they have shared.

"When he issued an altar call the Sunday before, we both walked up without hesitation," Rylee said.

"For the first time in a couple of years I have this joy in my heart again. Now, I can look at my family members who are here sitting together on a Sunday, including my grandson Norman who was baptized two Sundays after us, and know we will be together in Heaven one day."

The family members are among 19 new converts baptized at Providence

Number One Baptist since January – the most in a single year since the church was organized in 2012, according to Annual Church Profile statistics.

Pastor Cedric Murphy said the baptisms are a direct reflection of an increased focus on prayer and evangelism for the congregation that averages 60 for Sunday morning worship services.

"God has brought a revival within

See SISTERS, page 4

## LC, NOBTS to partner in grad ministry degree

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

PINEVILLE – Louisiana College students soon will enjoy access to a fast track for earning a graduate degree at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

NOBTS President Chuck Kelley and LC President Rick Brewer signed a memorandum of understanding, Oct. 29, to create a partnership that grants seminary-level credit for hours successfully com-

See PARTNER, page 2



Brian Blackwell photo

## Partner from page one

pleted by students in LC's Missions and Ministries program.

Brewer said he hopes the agreement will be finalized by the start of the spring semester in 2019.

"This partnership agreement will be a win-win-win," Brewer said, noting that the students and both institutions will reap rewards from cooperating. "Louisiana Baptist churches will profit, too, because more graduates will be on the field sooner than usual."

"We are exceedingly grateful for Dr. Kelley's leadership throughout his long tenure at the seminary, and as well, his vision for the future of the seminary and Louisiana College," Brewer said. "We look forward to a long and beneficial

relationship with another Southern Baptist institution whose curricula are built upon a Christian worldview and that has a burden for both the Lord's people and lost people."

Kelley said the agreement allows for students to receive their degree at the seminary more quickly as they pursue God's calling in the field of ministry.

"We just think partnerships are stronger than flying solo," he said. "We look for those synergies."

"We look for things that we can do together. And there is enough compatibility between these two institutions with our call and commitment to Christ and the Gospel, our call and commitment to Louisiana Baptists, that we are delighted to enter into this memorandum of understanding and to look for those ways that we can keep the education preparation process seamless for students at both of our schools and let students take advantage of what each of us does very, very well for the maximum benefit of the students," he added.

"We think we will have some good overlapping and mesh points that will make education more efficient and less expensive," Kelley continued. "More efficient for students and faster for students to be able to get out into the field to minister and to serve in the way that God is calling them."

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New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary President Chuck Kelley and Louisiana College President Rick Brewer sign a memorandum of understanding Oct. 29, 2018.

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*Churches can contact these various LACOSBE evangelists for all their church needs!*

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## LC Day In Your Church



We were thankful to hear a great word from the Scriptures through Dr. Brewer, and we were encouraged by, and worshipped with the Voices of LC. We will host more LC Days, and I highly recommend an LC Day for your church.

**Eddie Wren, FBC Rayville**



Dr. Brewer encouraged us in preaching, and the Voices of LC represented the college well. Why **not** expose your students and encourage their strong consideration of Louisiana College? Why **not** an LC Day in your church? We plan to host more.

**Steven Horn, FBC Lafayette**



Dr. Brewer and the Voices of LC knocked it out of the park in both services. Our people loved having them and seeing what God is doing at LC. I highly recommend an LC Day to promote the college and for the blessing of a great worship service.

**John Fream, Cypress Baptist Church**

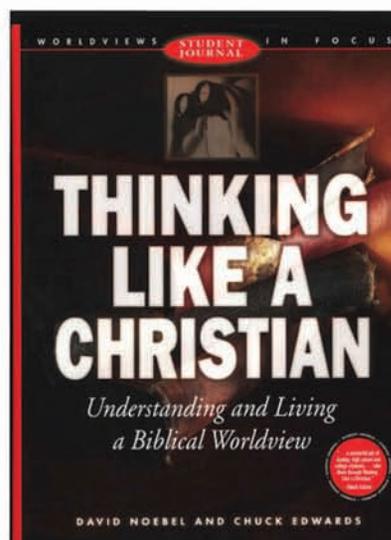


FBC Covington was blessed, inspired, encouraged, and informed by Dr. Brewer and the Voices of LC. We saw how CP dollars impact the lives of students who gain an excellent education with spiritual direction. Hosting an LC Day will serve any church well.

**Jay Johnston, FBC Covington**

To schedule an LC Day in your church, send an email to [reagan.watkins@lacollege.edu](mailto:reagan.watkins@lacollege.edu) or call 318.487.7326.

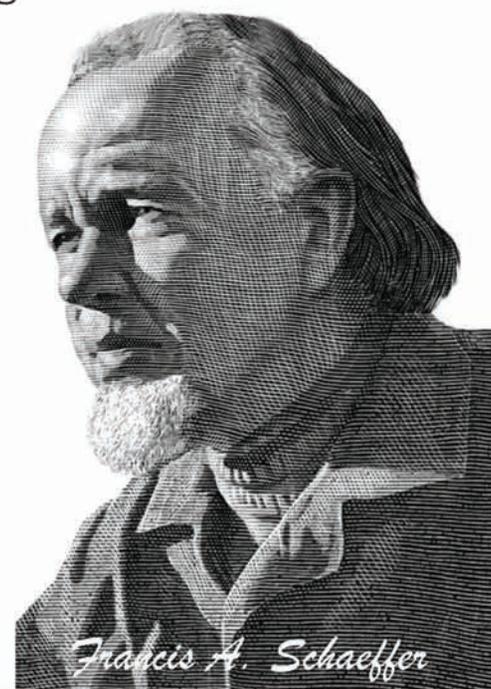
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## Sisters from page one

our church,” Murphy said. “We preached about evangelism. We talked about evangelism. But now it’s our members living out a lifestyle of evangelism.”

“We are seeing people reaching out to co-workers, neighbors and friends,” he continued. “The most rewarding thing you can see within the context of a pastor is when souls are being saved.”

Murphy admits discouragement set in earlier this year when the church was struggling financially and trending downward in weekly worship attendance.

Rather than adopt an attitude of pessimism, Murphy led his church into a new season of prayer and saw the Holy Spirit respond.

Since January 2017, the congregation has gathered each week for Sunday morning Bible study and prayer within these groups.

Then in 2018, Murphy felt led to focus more on corporate prayer.

So, in May, members began increasing the time spent in congregational prayer for the lost, the unchurched and the hurting in their community; and, in September, they were dedicating the first 45 minutes of each Wednesday night in prayer for revival.

“This year God told me not to allow prayer to be routine – where everyone gets in and out quickly and says his or her own prayer. He said we

should be more prayer focused,” Murphy said. “Prayer has been very powerful. The baptisms and salvations are linked to the way we pray to God.”

The first wave of baptisms came in July after the church conducted Vacation Bible School.

As it is with many Louisiana Baptist congregations, VBS is a major evangelistic tool for Providence Number One for reaching the community with the love of Christ. Though attendance was down from previous years, six of the 26 children who repented and professed faith in Christ this summer also followed through with believer’s baptism.

More baptisms followed as members continued praying and reaching out to others. Outreach includes conducting worship services every six weeks at a local recovery center, and hosting a youth and children ministry and a men’s ministry that are both designed to attract and impact the lost and unchurched.

Murphy is hopeful the church will maintain a prayerful spirit and see additional people turn to Christ.

“God has proven to me through what He’s done this year at our church that He is faithful,” Murphy said. “God will send a revival when we pray and intercede for lost souls.”

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# Lifelong friends share tale of valor for Veterans Day

By Bob Tompkins  
Special to the Message

POLAND – Stories of valor in battle are not uncommon on Veterans Day, and two lifelong Southern Baptist buddies and Vietnam buddies from Poland, Louisiana, are key figures in one.

Donald Ray Byrd and Charles Lee White, both 74 and friends since they were 6 years old, were drafted into the U.S. Army on the same day and trained together at Fort Polk. They also undertook artillery training together at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

They traveled on the same ship – the USS Upshur – for the 23-day journey from Tacoma, Washington, to Da Nang, Vietnam, and they served virtually side-by-side in the same artillery unit, working the “big guns” – 175 mm M107 self-propelled guns that weighed almost 29 tons and could fire rounds into zone ranges of seven, 15 or 25 miles.

Their base camp was at Dong Ha, the capital of Quang Tri Province, then the northern most town in South Vietnam.

Byrd was a sergeant, serving as a gun section chief, and White was an E4 specialist, serving as a driver.

They were part of an artillery battery of the 4th Artillery, 1st Artillery Group near the demilitarized zone (DMZ).

Thirteen soldiers man an M107, with an onboard crew of five – a section

chief, driver, gunner, assistant gunner and cannoneer.

On March 12, 1968, Bird and White were both on the gun and thankful for decent weather at their Quang Tri camp.

“They had been shooting at us with their artillery, dropping shots in front of us,” Byrd said of the North Vietnamese troops north of the DMZ. “They got smart and moved up and started dropping rounds on top of us.

“I pulled the crew in and got us in a bunker,” he continued, “but our lieutenant said we had to get back out and shoot, so we did.”

The lieutenant ordered Byrd to provide counter battery support for an infantry



Charles Lee White puts his arm around lifelong friend Donald Ray Byrd in October. The two served together in a U.S. Army artillery unit in Vietnam, and Byrd received the Silver Star.

unit in contact with the enemy during a particularly heavy artillery

barrage. Byrd led the men back to the gun and directed the fire mission.

As he prepared the final projectile for firing, “they dropped a round near our gun,” said Byrd, “and some shrapnel got me and killed a guy on gun 2. It knocked me down; I got up and couldn’t find Charles. My (left) leg was just barely hanging down.”

White, meanwhile, had been hit on his head by a small piece of shrapnel.

“A medic got my bleeding stopped and gave me morphine,” said Byrd, noting he also smoked some cigarettes, a habit he continues to this day.

White said if the heavy piece of shrapnel that hit Byrd had hit him, he “probably” would

have died. Not only did Byrd survive, “he stayed a-talkin’ the whole time,” said White.

White said the speck of shrapnel that hit him was absorbed by his body and that over time it moved to the top of his head until he was able to pull it out with his fingers.

See VALOR, page 7

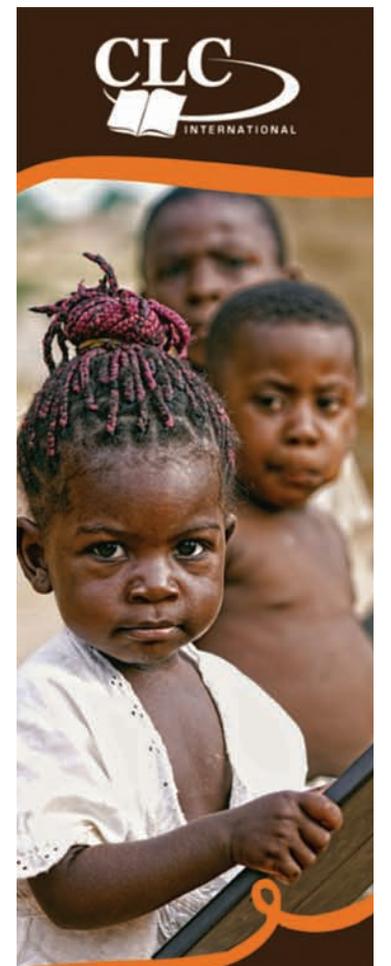


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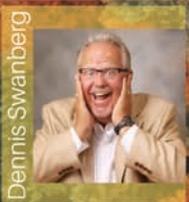
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<p><b>FEBRUARY 15-16, 2019   CHILDREN'S RETREAT</b> Fully Rely on God - "FROG it Up!"</p>			
<p><b>FEBRUARY 15-16, 2019   COUPLE'S RETREAT</b> with Kevin Richard</p>			
<p><b>MARCH 1-2, 2019   WOMEN'S RETREAT</b> with Rachel Norris, Speaker &amp; Potter</p>			
<p><b>JUNE 5-8, 2019   KID'S CAMP</b> Camp Spark   3rd - 6th Grade</p>			
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# Messengers must register to participate at Annual Meeting

By Shana Johnson  
LBC IT Supervisor

RUSTON – In order for a church to be represented in the business

portion of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, November 12-13, at Temple Baptist Church in Ruston, it will need to elect messenger(s), who then

must register and be certified by the Credentials Committee.

Merelin McCon, chairman of the Credentials Committee, noted to the Baptist Message that there are five ways for messengers to register and be approved:

-- The first and simplest way is for messengers to pre-register using the LaOne online program, print out the registration card, and bring it to the annual meeting. This way allows messengers to be certified within a matter of minutes, McCon said.

-- Second, a messenger may bring a letter on official letterhead signed

by the pastor or church clerk, stating that the individual was elected by the congregation.

-- Third, a church officer can phone in the names of elected messengers.

-- Fourth, a person can be vouchsafed as a duly elected messenger by a fellow registered church member.

-- Finally, when there is no other means by which to validate a person, a meeting of the Credentials Committee may be called to make a determination.

McCon emphasized that pastors are not registered automatically as messengers.

He said they must follow the same procedure as other messengers in order to participate in the business discussions and

official votes of the annual meeting.

## NOTICE TO ALL CHURCHES

**Pre-registration letters were mailed September 25th for the 2018 Louisiana Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.**

**If you have not done so already, please go online to [www.LaOne.org](http://www.LaOne.org) and use the login information provided in the letter you received to pre-register your messengers for this event.**

**If you have not received your letter, or if you have questions about the process, please contact the Information Services office by email ([Messengers@LBC.org](mailto:Messengers@LBC.org)) or phone (318.448.3402 ext. 242 or 210) for assistance.**

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**Valor** from page 5

For his part, Byrd was awarded the Silver Star, the nation's third highest award for valor, for his bravery and skillfulness during the action.

"Fearlessly exposing himself to a relentless hail of shrapnel from incoming artillery rounds," his Silver Star citation reads, "Sgt. Byrd took over as gunner, placing a devastating fire on the enemy weapons endangering the infantry unit and quickly silenced them."

Byrd said he was "totally surprised" to receive the Silver Star and laughed that the Army "had to find me a uniform" to wear for the ceremony.

While White grew

up going to Poland Baptist Church, Byrd went to church at the since-shuttered Latanier Baptist Church not far away. Both



Donald Ray Byrd, who lost a leg from wounds he received in Vietnam, was presented the Silver Star.

were honored at the annual God and Country Concert last June at the Poland Baptist Church.

Pastor Lyndon Marcotte said the appearance by the two veterans hit home with many of the members of Poland Baptist. His congregation remained

for a while after their presentation to show their appreciation.

"For one, it personalized a lot of the songs and readings at the God and Country Program," Marcotte said. "Many of the folks there knew them but didn't know their story. It



Submitted photo

Donald Ray Byrd stands to the left of the 175 mm M107 self-propelled gun, that weighed almost 29 tons, while talking with his crew, which included his close friend Charles Lee White (standing at right) during heavy fighting in Da Nang, Vietnam.

was especially meaningful for them to be heard and recognized for what they did for this country.

"For me, their testimony was personal since I was a chaplain at the VA Hospital in Pineville for a

few years," he continued. "The sacrifice our veterans make is pretty substantial, not only physically but emotionally. I thank both men and many other veterans for their bravery in defending our freedoms."

Mike Davis, the long-time music minister at the church, said he was "bullied a lot" as a youth and wasn't good at protecting himself, but Byrd, "a big ol' strapping guy," always had his back, often standing between the bullies and Davis and ordering them to go away.

"He was sort of a protector, more than one time," Davis said. "He and Charles are both stand-up guys."

White has two daughters and 10 grandchildren, including five from his current wife, and Byrd has three children, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Donald Ray said his faith helped him get through his ordeal during and after his serious battle injury, which required amputation of his leg.

"I didn't carry on like others or fuss, and my faith had a lot to do with it," Byrd said. "I thank the Lord I didn't get killed and am still here. He guided me through the whole ordeal."



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# Louisiana Baptists approach church planting milestone



Submitted photo

Bonita Road Baptist Church Mer Rouge will hold its first worship service Dec. 2. The replant of First Baptist Church in Mer Rouge will be the church started in the 100th city in the state city 2010.

**By Brian Blackwell**  
Message Staff Writer

ALEXANDRIA – Louisiana Baptists are getting ready to celebrate a milestone – planting a church in the 100th community since 2010.

On Dec. 2, First Baptist Church in Mer Rouge will be replanted as Bonita Road Baptist Church Mer Rouge, becoming the second campus of Bonita Road Baptist in Bastrop.

James Jenkins, director of church planting for Louisiana Baptists, said reaching this benchmark is evidence of a Great Commission fulfillment to start new congregations throughout the state.

“It’s a little bit of the early church found in the book Revelation played out right here in the Bayou state,” he said.

The achievement will mark a Southern Baptist presence in one-third of towns in the state, according to John Hebert, missions and ministries director for Louisiana

Baptists. Also, the replant of First Baptist Mer Rouge will be the 21st church planted in 2018 and the 231st church planted since 2010.

“We are excited about this accomplishment because it means that we retain a Southern Baptist presence in Mer Rouge,” Hebert said. “But it is a reminder that we have a significant amount of work to do if we are to reach the other two-thirds of communities in Louisiana. We want a Southern Baptist witness in every town and the nearer we get to 2020, the closer we are to meeting that goal.”

Hebert, who has served on staff with the LBC since 1999, said the success of the convention’s 10-3-1 strategy is contributing to the healthy environment of church planting in the state.

This association planning strategy begins with a 10-year goal of assisting associations with research to determine how many churches should be started in that area. Then, a three-year strategy is developed as a guide for church

planters and primary sponsor churches. This helps form a document used to determine funding levels for associations engaged in ministry projects and church planting.

Through 2020, the goal is to plant 300 new churches, with special attention given to New Orleans and south Louisiana. Since 2010, new church starts have reported 12,781 professions of faith, and 3,372 baptisms.

Planting healthy, biblically sound, multiplying churches in the state is one of four avenues used to engage two audiences – the next generation and every people group – that is part of a plan that came about as a result of the President’s 2020 Commission. Appointed after the 2012 Louisiana Baptist Convention Annual Meeting in West Monroe, the President’s 2020 Commission was tasked with developing and recommending a seven-year min-

See MILESTONE, page 21



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**Philip Robertson**  
Pastor, Philadelphia Baptist Church, Deville, LA

# Annual Meeting from page one

## LEANER BUDGET

Messengers also will vote on a reduced Cooperative Program budget.

Approved during the Executive Board's Sept. 25 meeting at Tall Timbers Baptist Conference Center in Woodworth, the 2019 financial plan is based on expected Cooperative Program contributions of \$18,813,818, a decrease of \$693,587. Cooperative Program projections are based on actual receipts from August 2017 thru July 2018.

The allocation formula for distributing Cooperative Program gifts between the Southern Baptist Convention and Louisiana Baptist Convention causes remains unchanged, with 63.26 percent supporting ministries in the state and 36.74 percent forwarded to fund national entities.

This equates to \$11,901,622 in Cooperative Program funds for Louisiana Baptist missions and ministries, a decrease of \$438,579 from 2018.

## OTHER BUSINESS

The update on how Louisiana Baptists are reaching the next generation and a vote on the budget are just two of a number of important items which will be addressed this year.

Highlights for Monday include a Bible study by Nik Ripken, author of the book "The Insanity of God." Also there will be a focus on the next generation in presentations by Hankins, LBC President Eddie Wren, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Rayville, and Louisiana College President Rick Brewer.

Tuesday will feature messages from Jeff Ginn, pastor of Istrouma Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, Herb Reavis, pastor of North Jacksonville Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, and Johnny Hunt, the newly-elected senior vice president for evangelism and leadership for

the North American Mission Board.

"I know Louisiana Baptists will be excited to hear Dr. Johnny Hunt and his vision for evangelism across the SBC," said Hankins. "Evangelism was one of the most frequently mentioned areas of concern during the SBC annual meeting in Dallas last June and I'm confident Louisiana Baptists are eager to support initiatives that will assist us in leading people to Christ."

Other items on Tuesday's agenda include; reports by the convention's entities; updates on state missions; approval of motions and election of officers.

"Dr. Eddie Wren has served Louisiana Baptists well over this last year," said Hankins. "I'm grateful he is making himself available again to serve as our president."

At press time, Wren is the only known candidate whose name will be placed in nomination for the office of LBC president. Likewise, Eddie Rhymes, director of missions for Deer Creek Baptist Association, is the only known candidate expected to be nominated for second vice

president.

"I always look forward to the LBC Annual meeting," Wren said. "This year our focus will be on impacting the next generation. I think all of us are concerned about those coming after us, especially when we read statistics that tell us how many young folks leave the church year after year."

"We must be more intentional about discipling and integrating the next generation into the work of the Kingdom," he continued. "I encourage all who can to attend the annual meeting and I pray we will leave with a passion to reach and mentor the next generation."

## NOV. 12 GATHERINGS

- Louisiana Baptist Christian Education Association, 11:30 a.m., Log Cabin restaurant, Ruston
- Hispanic Pastors and Leaders Luncheon, noon, Iglesia Belen Mission, Ruston
- Minister of Missions Roundtable, 4 p.m., Temple Baptist, Ruston
- African-American Fellowship, 4 p.m., Temple Baptist, Ruston
- Asian Fellowship, 4:30 p.m., Roma Italian Bistro restaurant, Ruston
- New Church Reception, 4:45 p.m., Temple Baptist,

Ruston.

## NOV. 13 GATHERINGS

- Discover Church Planting Breakfast, 7 a.m., Temple Baptist, Ruston
- Haiti Shout Breakfast, 7 a.m., Temple Baptist, Ruston
- Church Planting Luncheon, noon, Temple Baptist, Ruston
- New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Luncheon, noon, Temple Baptist, Ruston
- Retiree/Bi-vocational Luncheon, noon, Temple Baptist, Ruston



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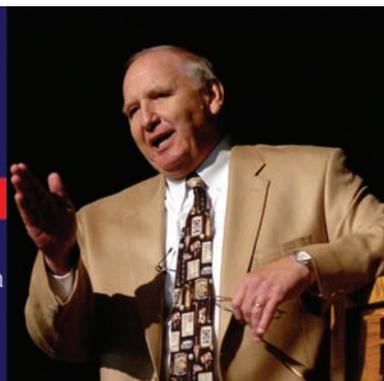
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## 2018 Pastors Conference to focus on 'whole church'

By Staff

Louisiana Baptist Message

RUSTON – Organizers of this year's Louisiana Baptist Pastors Conference hopes to equip participants with the tools needed to lead people of all backgrounds within the church.

"Our hope is that we can learn how to better reach and connect with people of different language groups and ethnic backgrounds, as well as families who deal with special needs or individuals who suffer with mental health issues," said Pastors Conference President Kirk Jones.

Scheduled Nov. 11-12 at Cook Baptist Church, the annual gathering's theme is "Whole: Equipping the church to love the whole church."

"The passion behind this theme is to take a Biblical approach to some difficult topics," Jones said. "Our heart is not to address what we should do but how we could and would lead our church to live out our shared conviction.

We will provide this opportunity through times of biblical preaching and through times of practical instruction in breakout session."

The conference begins 6 p.m., Nov. 11, with music led by Fellowship Church of Prairieville and Istrouma Espanol of Baton Rouge, and with a message shared by Louisiana Baptist Church Planting Strategist Carlos Schmidt.



Kirk Jones

Following the bi-lingual worship service, participants will

have an opportunity to eat a meal with members of the Hispanic Baptist Fellowship. This will allow participants to form connections and celebrate the Louisiana Baptist Convention's diversity, Jones said.

The conference continues at 8:30 a.m., Nov. 12.

Those scheduled to preach are John Meador, lead pastor of the First Baptist Church in Eules, Texas, Jeff Wallace, executive director of Lift Tour and Youth Pastor Summit

See PASTORS, page 15

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# Guidelines for the making of motions at Annual Meeting

ALEXANDRIA (LBM)  
– It is important to remember that motions may only deal with one topic at a time. When making a motion, you should be as brief as possible and always begin with the phrase “I move that...”

If you are making a subsidiary motion (one that deals with a motion already on the floor), it must be relevant to the motion currently under consideration and not be a motion that is the same or substantially similar to one already dealt with by this convention.

If your motion is a privileged motion, it must not be dilatory (unnecessary or made only to delay the conduct of business). If your motion seeks to amend the Louisiana Baptist Convention Articles of Incorporation or Louisiana Baptist Convention By-laws, please review these documents in advance for special rules regarding the process of amendment prior to offering your motion.

A copy of the LBC Articles of Incorporation and LBC Bylaws are found in your Book of Reports.

Important steps in wording your motion:  
• A motion should direct that the Convention take some sort of action or refrain from taking some action. Include only the action you want to see taken in your motion.

• Do not include supporting reasons for adopting your motion in the motion itself. This is done during debate and as the maker of the motion, you will have first opportunity to speak to your motion.

• Do not make a motion that the Convention not adopt some other main motion or attempt to amend a main motion in such a way that it becomes the opposite of its original intent. If you are against a certain motion, simply vote no.

• If you wish to amend a motion, you may move to strike out words from that motion and replace them with other words or you may move to simply add or take away words from the motion. It is not proper to make a “substitute motion” which seeks to completely change the words

See MOTIONS, page 17

## PROPOSED MOTION TO THE LOUISIANA BAPTIST CONVENTION

Name of Messenger: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church: \_\_\_\_\_

The wording of any motion should easily fit on the lines below. When making your motion, please state your name and the church from which you are a messenger. Then address the chair as follows:

Mr. President:

I move that:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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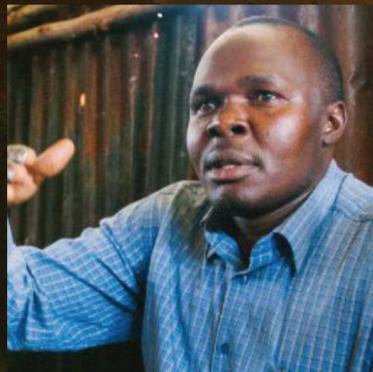
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12:1-2

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## YEC embraces 'Change' in return to Alexandria

**By Staff**

Louisiana Baptist Message

ALEXANDRIA – The Youth Evangelism Celebration is returning to its traditional home in Alexandria after a four-year run at Lafayette's Cajundome.

Scheduled Nov. 18-19 at the newly renovated Rapides Parish Coliseum, the largest annual gathering of Louisiana Baptists will celebrate its move back to central Louisiana with two concerts, a BMX team, inspiring messages and ample chances for students to gain the necessary tools to share their faith with classmates. YEC had enjoyed a 27-year run at the Rapides Parish Coliseum before renovations of the facilities forced a move to south Louisiana in 2014.

YEC will feature evangelist Drew Worsham as the guest speaker for all sessions.

The conference also will include award-winning Christian band Rush of Fools, event Master of Ceremonies Joseph Sojourner, event Disc Jockey DJ Vow, a demonstration by the Real Encounter BMX team, testimonies from students and concerts by former American Idol contestant Colton Dixon and the all-sibling band Bonray.

The theme, "Change," is

based on Romans 12:1-2.

During the Monday afternoon session, Worsham will lead training sessions on how to use the EvangeCard tract to share the Gospel. Students also will be challenged to share Christ on social media using #YEC18 to post testimonies to Instagram or Facebook. After YEC, they will be able to use both tools to spread the Gospel.

This will be the third of a multi-year rotation to equip students with various tools to share Christ. Those who began the training as seventh graders during the 2016 YEC will be familiar with seven different evangelistic tools by the time they are seniors.

Tickets for the event are \$50 per student.

Last year, 5,929 students attended YEC. By the end of the two-day event, 1,081 students had made different faith decisions: 325 repented for salvation, 212 responded to calls to ministry, 463 repented to restore fellowship with Christ and 81 made other spiritual commitments.

The event kicks off at 7 p.m. on Sunday and is scheduled to end at 9:30 p.m. on Monday.

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Evangelist Junior Hill

JOIN ME FOR 'NIGHT OF PRAISE' AT CALVARY BAPTIST, SHREVEPORT - JAN. 11, 2019 - 6 PM

# Pastors

from page 10

in Orlando, Florida, Bill Dye, lead pastor of North Monroe Baptist Church in Monroe, and Jon Bennett, senior pastor of Belfair Baptist Church in Baton Rouge.

The conference will feature breakout sessions, Nov. 12, on such topics as leading worship services that unite, developing diversity in leadership and loving those with mental health issues.

Spouses will have the opportunity to attend a Ministers' Wives lunch featuring Amanda Taylor Walker, author of "Discovering God's Design: A Journey to Restore Biblical Womanhood." Walker's husband, Chris, is university and missions pastor at Cook Baptist. Each participant will receive a complimentary copy of her book.

Childcare will be available during the conference, by reservation only. Anyone needing this service should e-mail sreynolds@fellowship-church.cc.

# 2018 PASTOR'S CONFERENCE

COOK BAPTIST CHURCH - RUSTON, LA

Sunday, November 11

**6:30 pm** Night of Unity Worship Service  
A joint time of worship with the LBC Hispanic Baptist Fellowship. This evening will be a time of bilingual worship, preaching, and teaching. Featuring: Fellowship Church Prairieville Praise Team with the Istrouma Espanol Praise Team  
Encouragement by Jeff Ginn, Lead Pastor at Istrouma, BR  
Speaker: Carlos Schmidt, Church Planting Strategist, LBC

**7:30 pm** Night of Unity Fellowship Meal  
Food will be provided from The Iron Cactus. The meal is free, but donations will be accepted toward the cost of the meal. Entertainment provided by VOICES of LC

Monday, November 12

**8:30 am** Worship Celebration  
Worship led by Fellowship Church Prairieville Praise Team  
Speaker: Bill Dye – Senior Pastor, North Monroe Baptist Church

**9:30 am** Breakouts  
Student Ministry for Every Student – Jeffrey Wallace  
Securing the Church without Scaring the Church – Ray Raney  
Church Planting – George Ross  
The Irresistible Church – Martie Kwasny  
Leading and Planning Worship that Unites – Dennis Watson and Celebration Church  
Alongside Those with Mental Illness - PART 1 -The Church – Mike Holmes  
Finding Hope (Ladies' Focused Breakout) – Judy Patrick

**10:30 am** Worship Celebration  
Worship led by Fellowship Church Prairieville Praise Team  
Special Presentation by New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Speaker: Jon Bennett - Senior Pastor, Belfair Baptist Church, BR

**Short Intermission**

Testimony by David Goza – Senior Pastor, Jefferson Baptist Church, BR  
Speaker: John Meador – Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Euleuss, TX

**12:00 pm Lunch Break for Pastors (on your own)**

**Minister's Wives' Luncheon**  
Food from Rosemary's Kitchen in Ruston  
Speaker: Amanda Walker – Author and Speaker, Cook Baptist Church, Ruston, LA  
There is no charge for the luncheon, but donations will be accepted. Each lady will receive a copy of Amanda's book and other gifts provided by the LBC Women's Ministry and Fellowship Church.

**1:30 pm Breakouts**

Growing Diverse in Church Leadership – John Meador  
Suffering in 3-D: Disease, Disability, Disorder – Martie Kwasny  
Planning and Leading Worship that Unites – Dennis Watson and Celebration Church  
Measuring what Matters – Bill Dye  
Teaching Tough Truths: Biblically Compassionate not Politically Correct – Jon Bennett  
Alongside Those with Mental Illness - PART 2 – The Pastor/Minister  
Leading Well Women who Lead Well – Chris and Amanda Walker  
Finding Hope (Ladies' Focused Breakout) – Judy Patrick

**3:00 pm** Worship Celebration

Worship led by Fellowship Church Prairieville Praise Team  
Special Pastor Recognition by Louisiana College  
Speaker: Jeffrey Wallace – Executive Director – LYFT Student Ministries

**4:00 pm** Closing Session

Worship led by Fellowship Church Prairieville Praise Team  
Election of 2019 Pastors' Conference Officers  
Closing Remarks by Kirk Jones – Lead Pastor, Fellowship Church Prairieville

# ECON

EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

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**Argile Smith**  
Biloxi, MS



**Ed Newton**  
San Antonio, TX



**Fred Luter**  
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**Chip Luter**  
New Orleans, LA



**David Hankins**  
Alexandria, LA



**Eric Hankins**  
Fairhope, AL

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# Operation Christmas Child set for 25th anniversary

## Special to the Message

JENA – Collection Week during November 12-19 will serve to mark the 25th anniversary of Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Franklin Graham’s Samaritan Purse that takes place the week before Thanksgiving.

Churches and individuals will bring gift-filled shoeboxes to relay stations across the country to begin the process of providing local partners around the world with a means of reaching out to children in their communities with the good news of Jesus Christ.

These simple gifts – small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies – go to children overseas affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease, and to children living on Native American reservations in the United

States.

### LOCAL CHURCH MINISTERS GLOBALLY

The First Baptist Church in Jena has been involved with Operation Christmas Child for 20 years, and since 2005 has been the LaSalle Parish Relay Station, taking collected shoeboxes to Kingsville Baptist Church in Pineville where they are picked up by Samaritan’s Purse 18-wheelers.

In 1998, Frances McDonald was asked by First Jena’s Missions in Action Director Ernie Poole to help with a new project. She had no idea then that she would one day be called to head up the operation which would grow some 2,000 percent.

“I remember that it was Rexi Tweety who approached Mrs. Ernie about starting Operation Christmas Child at First Baptist

back in 1998,” McDonald said. “She had been a part of it in Baton Rouge and thought it was a great project for our church to be involved in.”

The first year the church collected 86 boxes to send to Baton Rouge to join the many others to be distributed across the globe.

By 2005, the worthy cause had spread among so many churches throughout LaSalle Parish that a relay station was established at First Jena. That was the year Poole decided it was time to pass the mantle of control of the Christmas project to McDonald.

Last year, the relay station collected 1,798 shoeboxes.

“Of course, First Baptist isn’t responsible for preparing all those boxes,” McDonald noted.

First Jena prepares 500



SUBMITTED photo

Longtime Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Director Frances McDonald, center, puts the finishing touches on a child’s Christmas box during Jena First Baptist Church’s assembly day held Oct. 25. This year, OCC is celebrating 25 years and Jena FBC is celebrating 20 years with the program. Also shown is France’s husband, Tony, at left.

and Mt. Nebo Baptist Church prepares another 500, she said, adding that the rest come from a num-

ber of other churches and individuals.

See ANNIVERSARY, page 21

# ECON

EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

## SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON AT ECON

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29 • 11:30 AM FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, COVINGTON, LA

### FEATURING



**David Phelps**  
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**Argile Smith**  
Evangelist  
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### GROUP 1 SCHEDULE

- 11:30 Lunch 1 in Fellowship Hall
- 12:30 Special Program in Central Hall
- 1:30 David Phelps Concert in Worship Center
- 2:30 Argile Smith
- 3:10 Senior Adult Breakouts Begin

### GROUP 2 SCHEDULE

- 11:30 Special Program in Central Hall
- 12:30 Lunch 2 in Fellowship Hall
- 1:30 David Phelps Concert in Worship Center
- 2:30 Argile Smith
- 3:10 Senior Adult Breakouts Begin

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# Six resolutions to be offered for messengers' consideration

**By Staff**  
Louisiana Baptist Message

ALEXANDRIA (LBM) – The Resolutions Committee has drafted six resolutions for messengers to consider for adoption as consensus policy statements during the 171st Session of the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

The committee's recommendations will be offered for a vote at 3:05 p.m. as part of the Tuesday portion of the Nov. 12-13 program.

The six statements cover a span of issues.

One expresses appreciation for those who played a major part in the annual meeting. However, the remaining five address key spiritual matters, moral issues and social concerns that are hot topics of public debate.

**ON PROTECTION OF FAITH-BASED ADOPTION AND CHILD CARE-TAKING ENTITIES** was forwarded to the Resolutions Committee from the Moral and Social Concerns Committee in support of national legislation to defend Christian orphanages, adoption agencies and other child caretaking ministries from attack because of biblically-held beliefs about marriage and the biological basis of gender.

The resolution was requested by Perry Hancock, president of the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries. He

expressed concern to the committee about increasing hostility in some cities and states, including Boston, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., and Illinois, toward Christian social services agencies.

The committee drafted **ON LOUISIANA BAPTISTS' PRO-LIFE BELIEFS** to restate the Convention's strongly held pro-life stances, and in a way so as to blunt critics' false accusations that Christians only care about the baby in the womb.

Consequently, this statement emphasizes the "womb to eternity" ministries by Louisiana Baptists, pledging continued commitment to protect the

unborn, care for pregnant mothers and newborns, provide for orphans, equip destitute men and women for life and work, strengthen families, assist in recovery from natural disasters, rehabilitate and construct houses and supply hunger relief worldwide, all without strings attached, but always with an offer of the Gospel.

Without mentioning specific names, the resolution underscores the work Louisiana Baptists perform through such ministries as the Cenla Pregnancy Care Center, the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries, the Christian Women's Job Corps and Christian Men's Job Corps programs,

Disaster Relief and World Hunger Relief, and the evangelistic outreach made in each in addition to cooperative Gospel efforts like the statewide Harvest effort.

The resolution **ON STUDENT RIGHTS TO RELIGIOUS LIBERTY** draws from the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and

opinions of the U.S. Supreme Court to reaffirm "the rights of students to religious freedom" and "to exercise their religious beliefs on all public school campuses," which include elementary and secondary schools as well as colleges and universities.

The statement acknowl-

See **RESOLUTIONS**, page 19

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## Motion

from page 14

of a motion so that it is no longer what was originally offered.

• If you offer a motion during the report of a convention entity or the Executive Board, do not address the person making the report; only address the chair and state your motion directly to him.

The following may be used when making motions on the floor of the Louisiana Baptist Convention. Please provide a copy to the President or Secretary before making your motion.

## 2018 - DATES

- JAN 07 - 14 - ROBELINE, LA
- JAN 21 - BALL, LA
- JAN 22 - 23 - PINEVILLE, LA
- JAN 26 - 28 - WARREN, AR
- FEB 09 - 10 - SMACKOVER, AR
- FEB 11 - 18 - NEW ORLEANS, LA
- FEB 18 - SLAUGHTER, LA
- FEB 25 - THORNTON, AR
- MAR 14 - WASHBURN, MO
- MAR 16 - 17 - MT VERNON, MO
- MAR 23 - 25 - HOUMA, LA
- MAY 01 - 05 - COUSHATTA, LA
- MAY 06 - HIGHLAND, AR
- MAY 11 - 13 - FOUKE, AR
- MAY 25 - 28 - WACO, TX
- JUN 03 - WARREN, AR
- JUN 07 - 09 - WACO, TX
- JUN 10 - LORANGER, LA
- JUN 12 - 13 - DALLAS, TX
- JUN 14 - 16 - WACO, TX
- JUN 21 - 23 - WACO, TX
- JUN 24 - WEST, TX
- JUN 25 - 29 - GRANDBOIS, LA
- JUL 04 - MCGHEE, MS
- JUL 09 - 13 - GULF SHORES, AL
- JUL 16 - 19 - DRY CREEK, LA
- JUL 22 - COUSHATTA, LA
- JUL 28 - LONGVILLE, LA
- JUL 29 - DEQUINCY, LA
- JUL 30 - 31 - DRY CREEK, LA

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- AUG 10 - TONTITOWN, AR
- AUG 12 - ROGERS, AR
- AUG 13 - SPRINGDALE, AR
- AUG 19 - NATCHEZ, MS
- AUG 26 - RINGGOLD, LA
- SEP 02 - POYDRAS, LA
- SEP 09 - PROVINCAL, LA
- SEP 16 - 19 - LUFKIN, TX
- SEP 21 - 22 - P. HILL, LA
- SEP 26 & 30 - COUSHATTA, LA
- OCT 01 - COUSHATTA, LA
- OCT 07 - 10 - JC, AR
- OCT 14 - WARREN, AR
- OCT 16 - NASHVILLE, TN
- OCT 17 - ANTIOCH, TN
- OCT 21 - KANSAS CITY, MO
- OCT 21 - 24 - CASSVILLE, MO
- OCT 28 - HIGHLAND, AR
- NOV 11 - SULPHUR, LA
- NOV 14 - ROANOKE, LA
- NOV 16 - 18 - PATTERSON, LA
- NOV 28 - BENTON, AR
- DEC 09 - CRANFIELD, MS
- DEC 30 - EUREKA SPRINGS, AR

# LA Baptist Village dedicated in Haiti

By Staff

Louisiana Baptist Message

CROIX-DES-BOU-QUEST, Haiti – The October 14 dedication of the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Village in Croix-des-Bouquets, Haiti, was the culmination of five years of hard work by LA Reach Haiti, which is sponsored by the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home, the Louisiana Baptist Convention, the Haitian Baptist Convention and 30 Louisiana Baptist churches.

“What an emotional and exciting day of seeing vision become reality,” said Wayne Sheppard, the former executive assistant to Louisiana Baptist Convention Executive Director David Hankins. “Thank you, Dr. Perry Hancock and the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home for your generous partnership in

this work.”

Haiti was devastated by a Jan. 12, 2010, earthquake that killed more than 250,000 people and left hundreds of thousands more homeless, and Louisiana Baptists were among the first to provide disaster relief.

Since the earthquake response, Louisiana Baptists have maintained a ministry presence through mission trips.

Eventually, a vision developed for a permanent presence in Haiti, Sheppard said. The vision, called LA Reach Haiti, included building a mission center for church planting, a children’s village, a housing community, a micro-business center and trade school, and a school for educating the children.

Mission teams helped construct the compound, and also conducted Vaca-



Submitted photo

Louisiana Baptists, Haitians and other guests celebrated the dedication of the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Village in Croix-des-Bouquets, Haiti on Oct. 14. The dedication ceremony was the culmination of five years of work by LA Reach Haiti, which is sponsored by the Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home, the Louisiana Baptist Convention, the Haitian Baptist Convention and 30 Louisiana Southern Baptist churches.

tion Bible Schools, hosted pastors conferences, led evangelistic crusades and other outreach efforts, planted churches, held medical and dental clinics,

and installed safe drinking water systems.

Now that the Children’s Village has been established, Sheppard hopes the next of the projects will be

started soon.

Darrin Badon, facilities director at Istrouma Baptist Church in Baton

See VILLAGE, page 21

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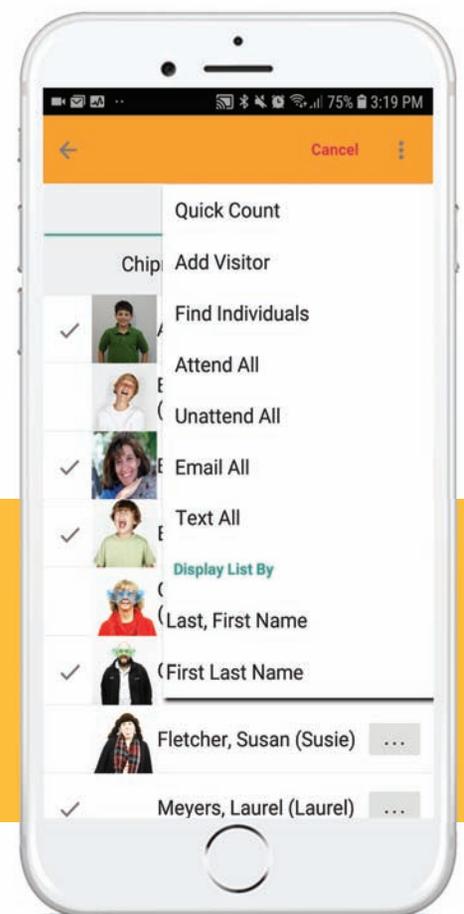


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# Resolutions from page 17

edges the legal obligation of these schools “to help preserve the religious freedom of students,” but also recognizes that “a growing number” of them “are limiting or prohibiting students’ rights to religious speech and expression.”

The resolution follows state legislation passed and signed into law this year requiring public colleges and universities to ensure free speech on their campuses. Act 666 requires these schools to spell out free speech rights, publicize those rights in student handbooks and on school websites and make clear that disagreeable opinions will not be censored. The legislation did not include public elementary and secondary schools.

**ON PREDATORY PAYDAY LENDING** addresses a critical issue for families facing “a sudden expense or financial or other short-term financial need and lacking assets to

offer as security for a traditional loan.”

Payday lending, typically loans of \$350 or less with high percentage interest rates for two-week periods, can be an important source of emergency funds in these cases. However, the practice can trap borrowers in an endless cycle of two-week loans.

The resolution emphasizes the biblical principle of paying one’s debt and equally underscores the Scripture’s instruction to protect the poor from exploitation, in condemning predatory payday lending, and calling for churches to offer financial education and training and for government leaders to investigate and pass policies to further protect financially vulnerable Louisianans from exploitation.

Finally, the committee drafted a resolution, **ON THE GOSPEL AND IMMIGRATION**, based on a 2011 SBC resolution with

the same name, but heavily edited by the committee. The committee felt led to speak to the issue following the Southern Baptist messengers’ vote this summer to approve a resolution about immigration.

The measure avoids language about “appropriate restitutionary measures,” in the 2018 and 2011 SBC resolutions. But it restates the call in both “to secure the borders” and “hold businesses accountable” for hiring illegal immigrants, while asking the government to implement “a carefully considered path to legal status, and not amnesty, for those undocumented immigrants

already living in our country.”

Importantly, the statement acknowledges possible disagreements among Louisiana Baptists about how to achieve public policy regarding immigration. However, it also offers agreement that “when it comes to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the message, in every language and to every person, is ‘Whosoever will may come.’”

Cullen Clark, pastor of First Baptist Church, Crowley, is chairman of the Resolutions Committee, and Clark Palmer, pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Tioga, is vice chairman. Other members are Tommy

French, pastor emeritus, Jefferson Baptist Church, Baton Rouge; Larry Johnson, pastor of Crossroads Community Church, Kenner; Steve McAlister, pastor of Westside Baptist Church, Natchitoches; Kayla Muller, member of Williams Boulevard Baptist Church, Kenner; Terry Young, pastor of Airline Baptist Church, Bossier City; Waylon Bailey, pastor of First Baptist Church, Covington (ex officio); George Guillory, pastor of Glen Oaks Baptist Church, Baton Rouge (ex officio); and, Jason Hoychick, pastor of Westview Baptist Church, DeRidder (ex officio).

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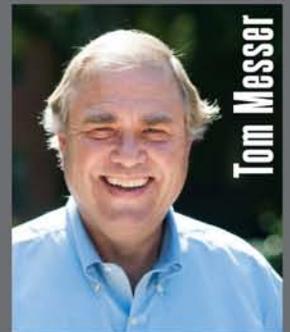
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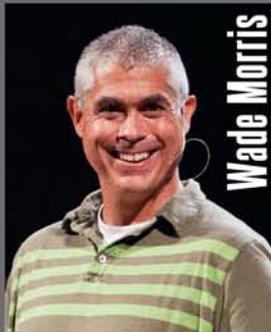
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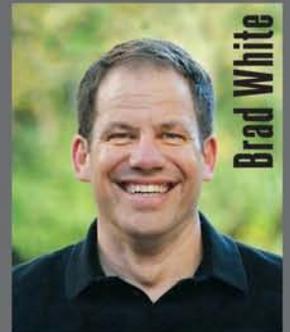
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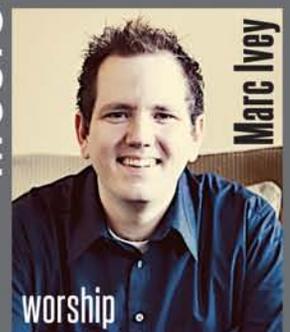
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# Chick-fil-A, per store, tops McDonald's, Starbucks & Subway, combined

By Staff

Louisiana Baptist Message

Chick-fil-A ranked only eighth in the United States in total yearly sales, earning about \$9 billion in 2017, according to QSR magazine, a fast-food industry journal. However, per store, CFA outpaced all competitors, taking in an average of \$4,090,900 each -- more than McDonald's (\$2,670,320), Starbucks (\$945,270) and Subway (\$416,860), com-

bined (\$4,032,450).

Part of its success is credited to its customer service, ranked by consumers as top in the industry three years in a row via the annual survey conducted by the American Customer Satisfaction Index. Moreover, its food quality was rated highest by customers across both fast-food and full-service restaurants.

Earning a rating of 87 out of 100, it bested the next best fast-food competitors Panera Bread (81), and

## CULTURAL NEWS

Papa John's, Pizza Hut and Subway (80). Likewise, it topped Texas Roadhouse (83) which ranked highest among "sit-down" eateries, which include Cracker Barrel, Longhorn Steakhouse (81), and Olive Garden (80).

Since the restaurant chain's founding in 1946, Chick-fil-A closes on Sunday, so employees can "set aside one day to rest and worship."

### FEDERAL APPEALS COURT HEARS PASTOR HOUSING ALLOWANCE CASE

The Trump administration and the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty urged a three-judge panel of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to reverse, for the second time, a federal district judge who has again overturned a 1954 law which allows "ministers of the Gospel" to exclude for federal income tax purposes the portion of their gross

income designated by their respective churches as a housing allowance.

Judge Barbara Crabb, appointed in 1979 to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin by then-President Jimmy Carter, ruled in 2013 and 2017 the housing allowance constituted a violation of the First Amendment prohibition against government establishment of religion.

Meanwhile, the Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF), which describes itself as a "watchdog" and "voice" for atheism, agnosticism and skepticism, argued Crabb's decision should be upheld.

The lawsuit does not affect ministers' tax-free use of a parsonage, also allowed by the 1954 law.

O.S. Hawkins, president of GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, said in a news release the housing allowance law "removes government from being involved in decisions best left

up to churches," regarding how to provide for pastor's needs -- "whether through a church-owned home or through a cash housing allowance."

GuideStone signed a friend-of-the-court brief asking the federal appeals court to reverse Crabb's opinion.

Crabb has stayed her own ruling, postponing enforcement until completion of the appeals process, and the date for a decision by the federal appeals court is not yet set.

In 2011, the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overruled Crabb's decision declaring the National Day of Prayer illegal.

According to newspaper reports, she does not attend church.

### TRUMP SET TO REVERSE OBAMA ON 'GENDER IDENTITY'

President Trump is about to reverse an Obama administration interpretation about gender identity, and instruct federal departments to enforce antidiscrimination laws based on the biological sex of individuals, the *New York Times* has reported.

Since 2016, federal agencies have been operating on the basis that "sex" was determined by the individual's "perceived gender identity."

Now, the "sex" of an individual will be defined "on a biological basis that is clear, grounded in science, objective and administrable," according to a memo reportedly drafted by the Department of Health and Human Services. "The sex listed on a person's birth certificate, as originally issued, shall constitute definitive proof of a person's sex unless rebutted by reliable genetic evidence."

Louisiana Baptists overwhelmingly passed a 2016 resolution that denounced "the sexual politics of transgenderism." The consensus statement emphasized "God's explicit creation of male and female," reiterated "our love for all our neighbors, including those who claim a transgender identity" and rejected "any law that directly contradicts natural law and biblical truth."

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# Anniversary from page 16

ber of other churches and individuals.

## A LASTING CHRISTMAS GIFT

McDonald said there is great joy in knowing that a child who would have not received anything for Christmas will receive one of these special OCC boxes. But she emphasized that the greatest joy is in knowing they will hear the message that Jesus loves them and has a plan of salvation for their lives.

"These boxes aren't just handed out - they are distributed by trained partners of Samaritan's Purse who use special materials to share the Gospel," she said. "Most of the children who hear the Gospel make professions of faith in Jesus Christ."

The Samaritan's Purse website explains that boys and girls who receive the shoeboxes are invited to enroll in "The Greatest Journey," a 12-lesson discipleship program. "Through the program, our local ministry partners are able to establish long-term, caring relationships with children and families by sharing the

love of Jesus Christ."

Each box is also delivered with a Bible - in the language of the country where the boxes are distributed.

"That's the reason we don't put Bibles in the shoeboxes," McDonald said. "Once they reach International's final preparation center, a Bible in the language of the country where they are going is sent with the box."

"I consider it a great honor to be able to work in this ministry that is sharing the Gospel around the world and seeing people saved through Jesus Christ," McDonald declared.

Last year, Operation Christmas Child collected 9.1 million shoeboxes in the United States and more than 11.4 million combined from partnering countries.

**For more information about Operation Christmas Child including information about what to pack inside a box, visit: [www.samaritanaspurse.org](http://www.samaritanaspurse.org).**

**For information about how to support the Operation Christmas Child ministry of the First Baptist Church in Jena, contact McDonald at 318.992.5985.**



Submitted photo

Members and guests of Jena First Baptist Church worked their way down an assembly line of various items to place in individual shoeboxes for Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child. The church schedules one day to assemble 500 shoeboxes that will eventually reach children throughout the world

# Milestone

from page 8

strategy for maximizing the effectiveness of Louisiana Baptists in reaching the lost through the year 2020.

Hebert said replants represent a major component of Louisiana Baptists' strategy to meet its goal of planting 300 churches by 2020. He said around 10 Louisiana Baptist churches disband each year.

"One of the things we are committed to is taking these congregations that are shut down, repurposing them -- getting them a new vision -- and replanting the work," Hebert said. "Through church development, we help them reorganize to save the ministry of the church. We work with the association and local churches to revitalize a congregation by bringing in new leadership, casting a new vision, and motivating them to reach their community afresh."

# Village from page 18

Rouge, has been to Haiti nearly 30 times since 2010. He said the completion of the children's village opens the door to receive children in early 2019.

"It's unbelievable to be a part of and see what God is doing since we started working toward completing this facility,"

Badon said. "God has placed His hand on this partnership.

"Our whole purpose to what we are doing is to take care of the kids and help reestablish as many of those orphan kids to their families," he continued. "While they are with us, we want to meet their

physical needs and show them the love of Christ."

**To volunteer for future mission teams to Haiti, contact Peggy Moffett at 318.343.2244 or [peggy@lbch.org](mailto:peggy@lbch.org). For more information about the ongoing projects, go to [www.lbchorphansembrace.org](http://www.lbchorphansembrace.org).**



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- Easter Island/Atacama (new) - February 10-20
- Costa Rica - February 12-19
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- Highlights of Italy - (Venice/Florence/Pompeii/Rome) - May 20-27

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**Bi-Vocational MINISTER OF MUSIC**  
Pisgah Baptist Church in Forest Hill, LA is seeking a bi-vocational minister of music to lead worship service.  
Email résumés to [cjrob928@aol.com](mailto:cjrob928@aol.com) or for more information, call 318.446.4320.

**YOUTH MINISTER**  
Olla First Baptist Church is seeking a full-time or part-time Youth Minister (junior high and high school). Please submit résumé by mail: P.O. Box 326, Olla, LA 71465, or by email to [ofbc@centurytel.net](mailto:ofbc@centurytel.net)

**SEEKING A BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR**  
Fryeburg Baptist Church in Heflin, LA is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Please send résumés to: Fryeburg Baptist Church Pulpit Committee, c/o Dale Davis, 580 Douglas Davis Rd, Heflin LA 71039.

**FULL-TIME PASTOR**  
Leesville First Baptist, Leesville, LA is seeking a full-time pastor. Please send résumés to: Roger Rolon, 399 Liberty Creek Road, Leesville, LA 71446 or First Baptist Church, P. O. Box 1568, Leesville, LA 71496.

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**SEEKING A FULL-TIME PASTOR**  
Fellowship Baptist Church, Dubach, LA is seeking a full-time pastor  
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**FULL-TIME PASTOR**  
Hamburg First Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a full-time pastor. Please send résumé to:  
First Baptist Church Pastor Search Committee, 203 E. Parker St. Hamburg, AR 71646 or email to [fbchbg.office@gmail.com](mailto:fbchbg.office@gmail.com).  
For more information, you may call the church office at 870.853.5520.

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**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *Do you have a Revival, Homecoming, a new pastor, a community outreach or a concert? The Baptist Message would love to share your church news with the rest of the state. It is very easy to do, just send in your information (who, what, where and when) to philip@baptistmessage.com or call 318.449.4345. To get your event in the paper, please submit your information three weeks prior to the event.*

**ON THE MOVE**

- **Andy Buckley** is interim pastor at Cornerstone Baptist Church, Jennings.
- **Gabe (wife Audrey) McCormick** is the new pastor at Belcher Baptist Church, Belcher.
- **J. D. Jones** is the new children minister at Calvary Baptist Church, Shreveport
- **Kenny Joyner** is the new pastor at Willow Point Baptist Church, Shreveport after resigning as pastor of First Baptist Church, Greenwood.
- **Jeremy Spurling** is the interim pastor at Kingston Road Baptist Church, Shreveport.
- **Shane West** is the interim pastor at Mansfield Road Baptist Church, Keithville.
- **Jim Arrant** is the new transitional pastor at Faith Baptist Church, Bastrop.
- **Brock Huffpauir** has resigned as pastor at New Life Church, Arnaudville.

**REVIVAL**

- Superior Avenue Baptist Church, Bogalusa: **Harvest Sunday**, November 11, Evangelist: **Joe Aulds**. Special Music: **Price Harris**. Pastor: Clay Norwood.
- Pioneer Baptist Church, Pioneer: **Harvest Sunday**, November 11, 10:30 a.m. Lunch will follow the worship service. Speaker: **Bill Robertson**. Special Music: **Ben Waites**. The church is located at 6029 Broadway Street (Highway 17) in Pioneer, LA. For more information,

- please contact Pastor Gary R. Wolfe at 318.282.8653. Pastor: Gary Wolfe.
- First Baptist Church, Larose: **Revival**, November 11-14, Sunday, 10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Monday-Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Evangelist: **Bill Britt**. Pastor: Gary Hanberry.
- New Prospect Baptist Church, Dry Prong: **Family Crusade**, November 11-14. Evangelist: **2TALK42 Ministries**. Pastor: Trey Lewis.
- First Baptist Church, Patterson: **Revival**, November 16-18, Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m.; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Special Music: **WeRcalled**. Pastor: Mark Norwood.
- Wood Springs Baptist Church, Grand Cane: **Harvest Sunday**, November 18. Evangelist: **Joe Aulds**. Pastor: Wayne Roberts.

**HOMECOMING**

- Mangham Baptist Church, Mangham: **122nd Homecoming**, November 11, 10:30 a.m. Speaker: **Cory Bruce, pastor at First Baptist, Dubach**. Pastor: Rick Aultman.
- Eastside Baptist Church, Rayville: **Homecoming**, November 18, 11 a.m. Speaker: **Chris Crawford**. Pastor: Chris Crawford.

**LAGNIAPPE**

- First Baptist Church, Pineville: **Meredith Andrews in concert**, December 8, 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 until December 7th through First Pineville's website [www.fbcpineville.net](http://www.fbcpineville.net). To purchase tickets go online to [www.itickets.com/events/396746.html](http://www.itickets.com/events/396746.html). Pastor: Stewart Holloway.
- Lakeshore Baptist Church, Monroe: **Sheepdog Seminars -- Protecting the Flock**, November 8, 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker: **Jimmy Meeks**, minister and police officer. Cost: Free. A love offering will be taken. This event is open

- to church staff, ushers, pastors, youth leaders, church leaders, church security teams, teachers, deacons, principals, police, and first responders. Pastor: William Smith.
- North Monroe Baptist Church, Monroe: **Together in Concert Matt Maher and Zach Williams**, November 8, 7 p.m. Cost: VIP - \$50, general admission - \$25, general admission (group 10+) \$20. Get your tickets at <https://www.itickets.com/events/400264.html>. Doors open at 6 p.m. Pastor: Bill Dye.
- Pritchard Baptist Church, Jena: **Judgement House**, November 8-11. For reservations call Allyson at 318.992.3351. Pastor: Terry Doughty.
- Northeast Baptist School, Monroe: **Fall Family Fun Day**, November 10, 9 a.m. - 2:30p.m. Free Admission. Events include: Arts and Crafts Fair, Classic Car Show, Kids Zone, Southern Gospel Music, Silent Auction, and Food. Proceeds benefit the van fund. To enter a car or rent a crafts booth, go to [nbs.school](http://nbs.school). For more information call the school office at 318.325.2077 or Monna Lee at 318.381.7828.
- Siloam Baptist Church, Many: **The Talleys in concert**, November 10, 6 p.m. Come join us for a night of worship and fun with The Talleys. The admission is FREE. Pastor: Wilton Anthony.
- Parkview Baptist Church, Sulphur: **WeRcalled in concert**, November 11, 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Randall Chesson.
- First Baptist Church, Ruston: **Annual Love Event - Community Thanksgiving Meal**, November 14, 6 p.m. The church will be serving a Thanksgiving meal at no charge at the Ruston Civic Center. Pastor: Chris Craig.
- First Baptist Church, Roanoke: **WeRcalled in Concert**, November 14, 6 p.m. Pastor: Darrell Hieronymus.
- Louisiana College, Pineville: **Re-opening of Guinn Auditorium**, No-

- vember 15, 7 p.m. Cost: \$10 at the door, there are no advance tickets. Guest Speaker: **Dennis Swanberg**.
- Greenwell Springs Baptist Church, Greenwell Springs: **We Are Messengers: Maybe It's Okay Tour**, November 17, 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18 - \$45 and can be purchased online at <http://bit.ly/MaybeltsOkayTour> Pastor: Brian Robertson.
- First Baptist Church, Hornbeck: **Thanksgiving Food Basket Delivery**, November 17, 8 a.m.; **Annual Community Thanksgiving Service**, November 18, 5:30 p.m. Pastor: Jack Bell.
- New Zion Baptist Church, Bossier City: **Musical Extravaganza**, November 17, 5 p.m. Pastor: Draper Wright.
- Bethlehem Baptist Church, Albany: **Heaven and Hot Rods Car Show sponsored by the Men's Ministry**, November 17, 3-7 p.m. There will be food, music, door prizes, inflatables and trophies. Entrants are asked to donate at least 5 canned good to Louisiana Baptist Children's Home at the event for their registration fee. To register or more information, call Buddy Hebert at 225.281.2349. A **Thanksgiving meal** will be served after the morning worship service November 18 and the youth will deliver Thanksgiving meals to the community November 21. Pastor: Jason Ogle.



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- Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport: **Global Impact annual missions conference**, Nov. 17, 6-8 p.m. Special Speaker: **David Platt**. Cost: admission free. Seating capacity is limited but overflow seating will be available. Pastor: Chuck Pourciau.
- First Baptist Church, Hornbeck: **Community Thanksgiving Service**, November 18, 5:30 p.m. Pastor: Jack Bell.
- First Baptist Church, Anacoco: **Duהל & Sheila Davis 25th Pastoral Anniversary**, November 18, 5 p.m. Guest speaker: **Dennis Swanberg**. Pastor: Duהל Davis.
- First Baptist Church, Denham Springs: **Ben Waites in concert**, November 18, 6:30 p.m. Pastor: Leo Miller.
- First Baptist Church, Lafayette: **30th anniversary of its Chinese ministry**, Nov. 18, 9:45 a.m. Lunch will follow the worship service at 12:15 p.m. Pastor: Steve Horn.

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## Scripture Crypto

The Scripture Crypto is a Bible verse in which one letter has been substituted for another, thus encoding the verse. To find out what the verse is, you must determine what each letter is a substitute for. An "a," for example, may stand for a "t" in this week's issue of the ScriptureCrypto. Next week, "a" could stand for a "d." Each week, each letter is different. Solve by trial and error. The answer will be given next week. Note: All numerals, such as those in the scripture reference after the verse, are spelled out.

qsp oqjo oqkv oszw vsx oqtk fqsxzw rk dsbmkft

cy oqk zjfo occk, pqs fqsxzw pjzm jaokt oqkct spy

xylswzv zxfof.

uxwk kclqokky

**Clues:**  
P = W; X = U

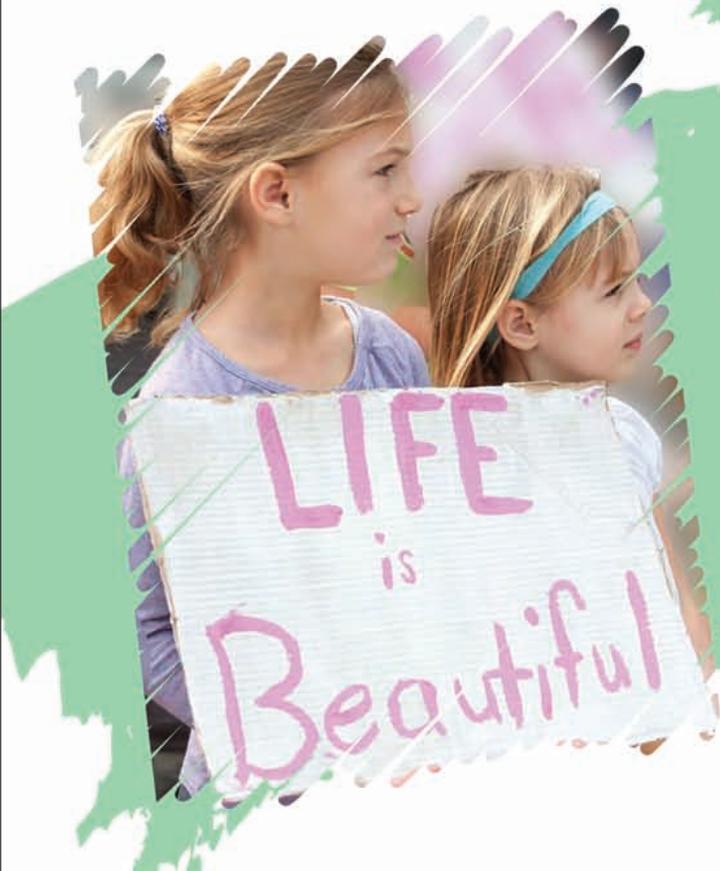
**Answer to October 25 Scripture Crypto:**  
John fifteen:twenty-four

# La. Loves

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BOSSIER/SHREVEPORT  
SAT., JAN. 26, 2019 | 10 AM

#### **NORTHEAST**

MONROE/WEST MONROE  
SUN, JAN. 27, 2019 | 2 PM

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